

LEGAL ADVOCACY



Advocacy can be defined as:

standing up for the rights of people who are being treated unfairly, and standing alongside an individual who is disadvantaged and speaking out on their behalf in a way that represents the best interests of that person.

Legal Advocacy:

'Legal advocacy' is the kind you might receive from, for example, a Community Legal Service or the Disability Discrimination Legal Centre. It often involves legal information, advice and representation by someone with legal knowledge

Advocacy is most often associated with individuals or groups who are disadvantaged. These people frequently feel isolated, disempowered and vulnerable and when their rights are being denied, they are often unable to stand up for themselves. In a situation like this, they rely on others to represent their interests for them.

Reason's for Advocacy:

Advocacy has developed in a variety of settings to protect the rights of people who may be vulnerable or disadvantaged according to their circumstances and the way they are treated by individuals, organizations and society.

This can include:

- People with mental health problems.
- People with learning disabilities.
- Older people.
- People with physical disabilities.
- Children and young people.
- Carers

Black people and people from minority ethnic communities may face additional difficulties and need specific support to address their needs.

Advocacy is often concerned with supporting people to access essential services in community and hospital settings and to support inclusion in society.

What will your contribution mean?

Help keep constitutional rights alive through community action, education and litigation. Advance liberty and justice for all in order to protect freedom.

Financially support free civil legal aid throughout Washington State for low-income people facing legal problems that threaten basic human needs like housing, health and family safety.

Defend the right to hear and speak the truth in the area of religious liberty, family values and sanctity of life.

Provide legal assistance to the poor and promote conflict resolution through biblical counseling, mediation and arbitration.

Fight for equality, access to education, employment, healthcare, housing, environmental justice.

PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS:

- American Civil Liberties Union Of Washington Foundation www.aclu-wa.gov
- Alliance Defense Fund www.telladf.org
- Campaign for Equal Justice & LAW Fund www.legaladforwafund.org
- Chaya www.chayaseattle.org
- Christian Blind Mission International www.cbmi-usa.org
- Christian Legal Society www.clsnet.org
- Dispute Resolution center of Kitsap County www.kitsapdrc.org
- Kitsap Legal Services www.kitsaplegalservices.org
- NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund www.naacpldf.org
- Northwest Immigrant Rights Project www.nwirp.org
- YMCA of Greater Seattle www.seattleyymca.org